HE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appln. No.

10/671,861

Applicant

Michael Lee, et al.

Filed

09/25/2003

Title

IDENTIFYING DEFECTS IN

DECORATIVE WOOD

PANELS

Confirmation No.

5373

TC/A.U.

(not yet known)

Examiner

(not yet known)

Docket No.

013590-133022

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Certificate of Mailing Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.8(a)

I hereby certify that, on the date shown below, this correspondence is being faxed to the Commissioner for Patents at (703) 872-9306.

6-15-04 SHous

PETITION UNDER CFR 1.47

An application for patent was filed informally and granted a filing date of September 25, 2003, SN 10/671,861, in the name of Michael Lee and Vidar Solli. Whereas a third inventor, Steve Pung, was inadvertently omitted, his name is added as an inventor under CFR § 1.48(f)(1).

Mr. Lee and Mr. Pung are employees of Columbia Forest Products, Inc., hereinafter Columbia, and Mr. Solli is an employee of Argos Systems, Inc., hereinafter Argos. Argos is a supplier of scanning systems and Columbia is a manufacturer of decorative plywood panels for furniture and the like. The two companies cooperated in the development of a system to detect manufacturing defects in decorative hardwood panels, and Mr. Lee, Mr. Pung, and Mr. Solli were the primary individuals representing the two companies involved in that effort.

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Argos and Columbia, including Mr. Lee, Mr. Pung, and Mr. Solli, agreed that an

application for a patent would be filed. All three participated in a disclosure of the

system to Mr. Robert Harrington, attorney for Applicant, who prepared a patent

application directed to that invention.

Whereas a marketing agreement had been previously entered into between Argos

and Columbia, it was determined that the ownership and marketing rights of the invention

of the patent application would be similarly administered. A separate patent rights

agreement was developed toward that end. Unexpected difficulties have delayed the

finalization of the patent rights agreement, and inventor Solli refuses to execute the patent

application until the agreement is finalized.

The patent application and declaration of inventorship as filed in this application

were presented to Mr. Solli for signature as identified in the accompanying Declaration of

Statement of Facts by Mr. Lee. Several inquiries have been made of Mr. Solli and he has

refused to sign the declaration until resolution of the patent rights agreement.

This Petition is accordingly submitted for allowing signatures of Mr. Lee and Mr.

Pung to be accepted on behalf of Mr. Vidar Solli as permitted under 37 CFR 1.47.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert L. Harrington, Reg. No. 20,994

Attorneys for Applicant

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Appln. No. 10/671,861 PETITION UNDER CFR 1.47 Attorney Docket No. 013590-133022

Please direct all correspondence related to this application to:

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DECLARATION OF STATEMENT OF FACTS

Michael Lee, a named inventor of USSN 10/671,861, hereby, by declaration, recites the following Statement of Facts:

I am Project Manager of Columbia Forest Products, Inc. ("Columbia") and as a result of a need by Columbia for a defect detection system for identifying manufacturing defects in decorative wood panel, Columbia contacted Argos Systems Inc. ("Argos"), a producer of detecting systems.

Myself and Steve Pung of Columbia and Vidar Solli of Argos represented our respective companies in an effort to develop such a system. A system was successfully developed and we cooperatively disclosed the system to our designated patent attorney, Robert Harrington, for the purpose of preparing a patent application to be filed jointly by us.

The application on file under the above Serial No. 10/671,861 was reviewed by me and I sent a copy to Mr. Solli along with the application documents provided me by Mr. Harrington for signature by Mr. Solli and myself. By way of email to me, Mr. Solli expressed having received the application and his reluctance to pursue the patent coverage without being aware of the legal consequences. A redacted copy of said email message is attached as Exhibit A.

I was advised subsequently by Mr. Solli in a verbal conversation that he would not sign the application papers until these issues had been resolved and reviewed with legal counsel in the U.S. Such review is ongoing as of the signing of this Declaration.

I further declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of

App. No. 10/671,861 Atty Docket No. 013590-133022 the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Executed by and on the date as set forth below:

6/16/04

Date

Michael Lee

From: Vidar Solli [mailto:vidar@argoscontrol.no]

Sent: Friday, May 28, 2004 8:39 AM

To: Mike Lee Subject: Patent

Based on the preliminary comments and the contents of the patent application, I am a bit reluctant to the patent and joint ownership agreement as we are not perfectly sure about the consequences for Argos.

Vidar Solli Managing Director vidar@argoscontrol.no <mailto:vidar@argoscontrol.no>

Argos Control AS

EXHIBIT AApp. No. 10/671,861
Atty Docket No. 013590-133022